Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN.—Sir, it is said that this Report being confidential, it could not be disclosed in public interest. May I know, when you issued the G. O. appointing the Committee, whether it was stated that the recommendations of the Committee should be treated as confidential ?

† Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It was not necessary.

Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN.—Sir, there is a Government order originally constituting this Committee. Does it say that the report of the committee should be confidential ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—Sir, I do not remember all that. But, Government has a right to treat any report as confidential or as public.

Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA.—Is it not a fact that even the Reports of the Central Pay Committee and the Pay Committees of Andhra and Madras were published and if so, what was the necessity for this Government to treat this report as confidential ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—Sir, these analogies may not be similar; they may be different.

Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA.— Have Government given instruction to print this report ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—Sir, even an ordinary report is got printed; but , it does not mean that it should be released.

Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA.—How many copies were got printed, Sir ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It is a different question.

Sri C. J. MUCKANNAPPA.—What compelled the Government to treat this report as confidential, Sir ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—The compelling reason, public interest itself.

Sri C. J. MUCKANNAPPA.—What are all the compelling reasons even to keep it back wihout bringing it to the notice of the Hon'ble Members of this House ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—I presume that Hon'ble Member knows the meaning of public interest and what it stands for.

Sri C. J. MUCKANNAPPA.—Sir, he need not refer me to the Dictionary to know the meaning of public interest. I want to know the reasons to hide this matter even from this House.

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—All the factors that constitute public interest.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Are there very marked differences between the recommendations of the Committee and the report as is finally passed by Government, Sir ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—I cannot say ; it would be disclosing the confidential report.

Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN.—Is it not a fact that one of the reasons for treating the report of the Pay Committee as confidential is the fact that the Committee has suggested higher emoluments than that contained in the G. O. ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—I do not subscribe to the inference drawn.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SHETTY.—May I know to what extent the disparities between the integrated areas and the old State of Mysore have been narrowed down after the introduction of new pay scales ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—The report itself will give the information if the Hon'ble. Member properly scrutinises it.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SHETTY.—It is a very big report and we are not in a position to have correct calculations.

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—A comparative table of pay scales is given. A reading of it will give an idea.

Sri G. VANKATAI GOWDA.—In what respects have Government adopted the recommendations of the Committee and how far is it justified in making departures from the recommendation ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—I am sorry I cannot disclose.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SHETTY.—May I know whether in Madras the D. A. was merged even in respect of officials drawing more than Rs. 300 and this has not been adopted here ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It is outside the scope of the question. We are not discussing the G. O. here but only about the recommendations of the Pay Committee.

Sri G. VANKATAI GOWDA.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that there have been press statements from big people that the acceptance of Government is different from the recommendations of the Committee ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—Government cannot be held responsible for press statements made by others, however big they might be.

Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN.—May I know whether so far as the heads of departments are concerned, the Pay Committee had recommended lower emoluments, whereas the Government enhanced it in their G.O.

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—That also involves a comparison, I am not in a position to divulge the contents of the report of the Pay Committee.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Is Govarnment aware that in the final shape of the G. O. there is a discrimination between the heads of departments and Secretaries to Government.

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—The final order of Government is not before us in this question.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Even in the Committee's report, was not a discrimination made between heads of some departments and Secretaries to Government ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—I am afraid I cannot reply the question.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—I am asking information on a question of fact.

Mr. CHAIRMAN.—The original report is top secret and Government is not prepared to disclose it.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SHETTY.—Is Government aware that the revision of scales has not brought about any benefit to persons who have rendered long service by way of weightage ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It is a matter of opinion.

Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA.—Is it not a fact that several suggestions in respect of enhancement of pay scales were made by Members of this House and did the Committee or the Government took them into account ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—I cannot say what the committee has done.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Is this report going to be submitted to the Finance Commission ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It is too premature for me to say anything at this stage.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Is it not a fact that the recommendations have already been printed for being placed before the Finance Commission ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—That is a memorandum. We have placed a memorandum now.

Sri J. B MALLARADHYA.—Does not the memorandum contain a reference to this report.

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It may have been referred. Many other reports are included in it.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—I am asking whether any reference has been made in the memorandum to this particular report ?

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN.—It is a memorandum of Government giving the total quantum of money and our resources. We have not given all the details. It is premature for us to go into details now.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Then may we conclude that you are keeping back some information from the Finance Commission ?

Mr. CHAIRMAN.—It is difficult to say anything on this matter at this stage. That is the plea of the Hon'ble Deputy Minister.